

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A diamond blade formed by providing slots ~~[[7]]~~ on the outer peripheral edge of a circular core ~~[[2]]~~ and fixing a superabrasive layer ~~[[3, 4]]~~ to a portion of the outer peripheral surface of said core located between said ~~[[slots 7]]~~ slots, wherein

said superabrasive layer ~~[[3, 4]]~~ includes a first superabrasive layer ~~[[3]]~~ having an extension ~~[[3a]]~~ formed by partially extending said superabrasive layer toward the inner periphery of the core ~~[[2]]~~ and a second superabrasive ~~[[layer 4]]~~ layer, a reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[[5]]~~ extending from the outer periphery toward the inner periphery of said core is formed on the inner peripheral side of said second superabrasive layer ~~[[4]]~~ while said reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[[5]]~~ is located closer to the outer periphery than a radial central portion ~~[[0]]~~ of the core and an outer peripheral end ~~[[5a]]~~ of said reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[[5]]~~ is located closer to the outer periphery than an inner peripheral end ~~[[3b]]~~ of the extension ~~[[3a]]~~ of said first superabrasive layer.

2. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1, wherein a stressing layer is circumferentially continuously or intermittently formed on the radial central portion of said ~~[[core 2]]~~ core.

3. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1, wherein said second superabrasive layer ~~[[+4+]]~~ is provided with an extension ~~[[+4a+]]~~ having a relatively short radial length with respect to the extension ~~[[+3a+]]~~ of said first superabrasive layer.

4. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 3, wherein the extension ~~[[+4a+]]~~ of said second superabrasive layer is formed to a side closer to the inner periphery than a line connecting innermost portions of adjacent slots ~~[[+7+]]~~ with each other.

5. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1, wherein said first superabrasive ~~[[layer-(3)+]]~~ layer, said second superabrasive layer ~~[[+4+]]~~ and the reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[[+5+]]~~ and said core ~~[[+2+]]~~ are bonded to each other by simultaneous sintering.

6. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 5, wherein a bond for said reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[[+5+]]~~ consists of a bond reaching the maximum density at a lower temperature than bonds for said first superabrasive layer ~~[[+3+]]~~ and the second superabrasive ~~[[layer-(4)+]]~~ layer.

7. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1, wherein through holes ~~[[+9+]]~~ or through grooves ~~[[+8+]]~~ are provided on portions of said core ~~[[+2+]]~~ provided with said first superabrasive ~~[[layer-(3)+]]~~ layer, the second

superabrasive layer ~~[(4)]~~ and the reinforcing  
superabrasive ~~[(layer (5).)]~~ layer.

8. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1,  
wherein said second superabrasive layer ~~[(4)]~~ and said  
reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[(5)]~~ are discontinuously  
formed in the radial direction.

9. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1,  
wherein said first superabrasive ~~[(layer (3).)]~~ layer, said  
second superabrasive layer ~~[(4)]~~ and the reinforcing  
superabrasive layer ~~[(5)]~~ are formed with ~~[(grooves~~  
~~(6).)]~~ grooves.

[AMENDMENT CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]